GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5922
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Quality of Education
Adsul Shri Anandrao

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocating more resources or focusing more on higher education would solve some of the gripping issues faced by nation and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps are being taken by the Government to improve the quality of education at the institutional level?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) & (b): The Central Government has launched several initiatives viz. National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Impacting Research, Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT), Uchchtar Avishkar Yojna (UAY), Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN) in the field of education for the qualitative development of education in the country.

Under the NIRF, Educational Institutions are ranked by an independent ranking Agency on the basis of objective criteria. The IMPRINT initiative seeks to address engineering challenges in ten technology domains through the collaborative efforts of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc). The objectives of UAY scheme are to promote innovation in IITs addressing issues of manufacturing industries; to spur innovative mindset; to co-ordinate action between academia & industry and to strengthen labs & research facilities. Distinguished academicians, from premier institutions across the world, are invited under the scheme of GIAN to conduct one week or two week course at Indian institutions.

Further, strategic funding and reforms in the State higher education sector are being undertaken through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).

The University Grants Commission (UGC) undertakes maintenance of standards in teaching and research and quality assurance in Universities, Deemed to be Universities and Colleges through the following mechanisms, namely: framing regulations and schemes and; disbursing grants to the eligible institutions. The UGC has notified and amended several regulations with the objective of sustenance and improvement in the quality of higher education and for undertaking academic reforms. The regulations are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/page/UGC-Regulations.aspx. In order to encourage research and development in the country, the UGC is implementing several schemes, awards, fellowships, chairs and programmes. These schemes are at http:// www.ugc.ac.in/page/XII-Plan-Guidelines.aspx .

The Central Government in consultation with the University Grants Commission (UGC) has been constantly striving to improve the quality of higher education based on the national needs and aspirations and in tune with global trends. In order to realize this, the government through UGC allocates resources in such a manner that higher education system in the country is streamlined and strengthened along the principles of access, expansion, quality, equity and inclusion, research and relevance.

Further, UGC undertakes regular monitoring for improving the quality and compatibility of higher education across institutions by constituting various in-house committees.

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